

C<sup>1</sup>  
1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for producing a solid sustained-release preparation, which comprises freeze-drying a sustained-release microcapsule preparation in a freeze-drying container of which the inner face is partially or wholly coated with an ice layer or water-repelling base material.

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C<sup>2</sup>  
13. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for producing a sustained-release preparation comprising:  
freezing water in a freeze-drying container having an inner face to form an ice layer which wholly or partially coats said inner face of said freeze-drying container;  
adding a sustained-release microcapsule preparation suspension to said ice layer;  
freezing said sustained-release microcapsule preparation suspension over said ice layer to form a sustained-release preparation layer;  
sublimating water from said ice layer and said sustained-release preparation layer;  
and then,  
recovering a sustained-release preparation from said freeze-drying container.

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